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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. UM-06105

#93
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6-10-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Richards *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/844,653

Group No.: 1634

Filed: 04/27/01

Examiner: Souaya, J.

Entitled: Detecting and Treating Eye Disease

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT MAILED APRIL 19, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Dated: May 20, 2002

By:

Susan M. McClintock

Sir:

The following communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed April 19, 2002. Applicants hereby elect the Claims in Group I with traverse. Applicants reserve the right to continue prosecution of the withdrawn Claims at a later time.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 6, 12-15, 17, and 18-23.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, line 1, please delete the current title "DETECTING AND TREATING EYE DISEASE" and insert new title --LATROPHILIN POLYNUCLEOTIDES--.

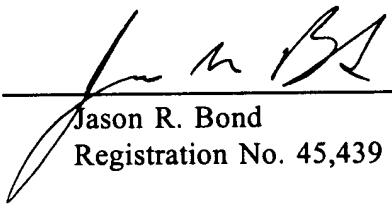
On page 1, lines 3-5, please delete the following paragraph "The present application was funded in part with government support under grant number C033662, from the National Eye Institute at the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights in this

"invention." and insert the following paragraph --The present application was funded in part with government support under grant number EY09580, from the National Eye Institute at the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights in this invention.--

REMARKS

The Examiner has made a restriction requirement, restricting the Claims into three groups, with Group I comprising Claims 1-5, 7-11 and 16, Group II comprising Claims 6, 12-15, and 17, and Group III comprising Claims 18-23. Applicants disagree with this restriction. Nonetheless, in the interests of furthering their business interests, Applicants have elected the Claims in Group I, with traverse. As such, Claims 1-5, 7-11 and 16 are currently pending (See, Appendix II).

Dated: May 20, 2002



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